WASHINGTON - Congressman Steny Hoyer (D-MD) today announced the nominations to the four U.S. Service Academies from the 5th Congressional District, which includes part of Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties, and all of Charles, Calvert and St. Mary's Counties.

"All of these bright and talented nominees are deserving of the privilege of attending one of our fine military academies," said Congressman Hoyer. "Our nation has demanded a great sacrifice from our military men and women and it is reassuring to have met so many remarkable young men and women who are eager to serve their country. I wish them all the best of luck throughout the selection process."

These highly competitive institutions provide a top-notch education. In addition to teaching the leadership, discipline and communication skills necessary to be an officer in our nation's military, these academies teach skills that are invaluable in today's job market. Graduation from the U.S. Military, Air Force, Naval, and Merchant Marine Academies ensures a successful future for today's young men and women, both for those who pursue a career in the military and for those who enter the job market after fulfilling their obligations. The academies provide a tremendous opportunity for a free education, but they also mold people into leaders.

Only a handful of students nationwide are admitted to the U.S. Service Academies each year. Prospective students must meet strict academic qualifications and are interviewed and recommended by a non-partisan Academy Selection Board appointed by Congressman Hoyer.

Once the nominations are forwarded to the Service Academies, each student's eligibility is evaluated based on their academic and extra-curricular record, leadership skills, physical stamina and other requirements. Appointments for entrance are offered by the Academies as the students are evaluated. In 2004, thirty-six students received nominations from Congressman Hoyer and fourteen of those received appointments and are now attending one of the U.S. Military Service Academies.

Students interested in attending one of the Service Academies can visit Congressman Hoyer's website, www.hoyer.house.gov, for more information about the application process.

Attached is the full list of service academy nominations from the Fifth Congressional District.

NOMINEES TO U.S. SERVICE ACADEMIES

CONGRESSMAN STENY H. HOYER

CLASS OF 2009

NAME - COUNTY - HIGH SCHOOL

AIR FORCE

Shawn Pennington - Charles - Thomas Stone HS

Kara Tipper - Charles - La Plata HS

Debra Starkey - Charles - La Plata HS

Scott MacAdams - Anne Arundel - St. Mary's HS

Michael LaFond - Calvert - Leonard Hall Junior Naval Academy

Matthew Lohr - Charles - Thomas Stone HS

Andrew McGraw - Anne Arundel - St. Mary's HS

ARMY

Joseph Fasone - Prince George's - Eleanor Roosevelt

Robert Christie - St. Mary's - Chopticon HS

James Fasone - Prince George's - Eleanor Roosevelt

Patrick Jeffrey - Charles - Thomas Stone HS

Steven Harmel - Anne Arundel - Arshbishop Spalding

Timothy Flynn - Charles - Bishop Mc Namara

Charlie Marie Stamm - St. Mary's - Leonard Hall Junior Naval Academy

MERCHANT MARINE

Jeffrey Jurin - Calvert - Northern HS

Robb De Pol - Anne Arundel - St. Mary's HS

David Rohan - Prince George's - Bishop McNamara

Daniel Fink - Anne Arundel - St. Mary's HS

Joshua Kenny - Calvert - Calvert HS

NAVY

Jason Beaudwin - St. Mary's - Leonardtown HS

Michael Bembe - Anne Arundel - Southern HS

Richard Bowie - Charles - Lackey HS

Michael Brown - Anne Arundel - Southern HS

Patrick Clague - Calvert - Northern HS

Patricia Cooke - Prince George's - Archbishop Spalding

Matthew Forsyth - Calvert - Patuxent HS

Joshua Matthews - Charles - La Plata HS

David Palko - Charles - La Plata HS

Courtney Schnell - Prince George's - Seton HS

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